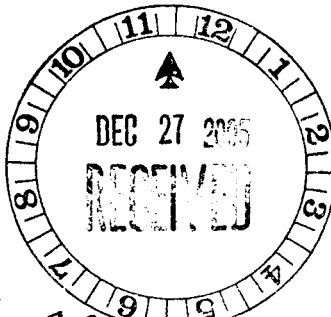


December 13, 2005

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

Mr. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001



Freeborn & Peters LLP

215432

Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 435X); Docket No. AB-987X; The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company Abandonment of Albany, Illinois

Attorneys at Law

311 South Wacker Drive
Suite 3000
Chicago, Illinois
60606-6677
Tel 312.360.6000

Brian Nettles
Paralegal
Direct 312.360.6336
Fax 312.360.6596
bnettl@
freebornpeters.com

Dear Secretary Williams:

Enclosed is a recently received responses we just received from the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the Albany, IL abandonment, AB-6 (Sub-No. 435X); Docket No. AB-987X.

Sincerely,

Brian Nettles

Chicago

Springfield

/bn
Enclosures

ENTERED
Office of Proceedings

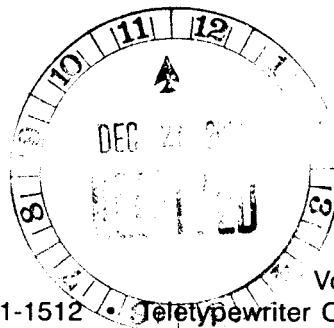
DEC 27 2005

Part of
Public Record



Illinois Historic Preservation Agency

1 Old State Capitol Plaza • Springfield, Illinois 62701-1512 • Teletypewriter Only (217) 524-7128



Voice (217) 782-4836

Various County
Albany

PLEASE REFER TO:

IHPA LOG #009111705

www.illinois-history.gov

Railroad line between Mileposts 20.31 and 25.40, Albany,

STB,
BNSF Railway Company Abandonment

December 9, 2005

Michael Smith
311 S. Wacker Dr., Ste. 3000
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Mr. Smith::

We have reviewed the documentation submitted for the referenced project(s) in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.4. Based upon the information provided, no historic properties are affected. We, therefore, have no objection to the undertaking proceeding as planned.

Please retain this letter in your files as evidence of compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. This clearance remains in effect for two (2) years from date of issuance. It does not pertain to any discovery during construction, nor is it a clearance for purposes of the Illinois Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act (20 ILCS 3440).

If you are an applicant, please submit a copy of this letter to the state or federal agency from which you obtain any permit, license, grant, or other assistance.

Sincerely,

Anne E. Haaker
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

AEH

cc:

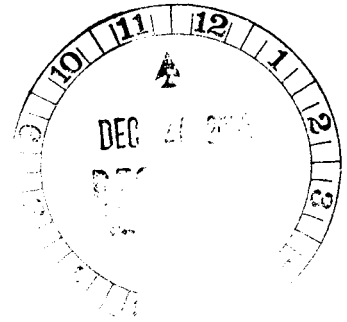


DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CLOCK TOWER BUILDING - P.O. BOX 2004
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS 61204-2004

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

<http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil>

November 29, 2005



Operations Division

SUBJECT: CEMVR-OD-P-2005-1714

Mr. Michael Smith
Freeborn & Peters
311 South Wacker Drive, Suite 3000
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6677

Dear Mr. Smith:

Our office reviewed your application dated November 11, 2005, concerning the proposed abandonment of the Burlington, Northern, Santa Fe railroad line from mile post 20.31 to mile post 25.40 near the Mississippi River in various Sections, Township 21 North, Range 2 East, Rock Island and Whiteside Counties, Illinois.

We determined your project as proposed does not require a Department of the Army (DA) Section 10 or 404 permit. The decision regarding this action is based on information found in the administrative record which documents the District's decision-making process, the basis for the decision, and the final decision. No indication of discharge of dredged or fill material was found to occur in waters of the United States (including wetlands). Therefore, this determination resulted.

Should your project involve the extraction of any bridges, you are required to remove all fill materials to an upland, non-wetland site, and to remove all pilings to at least one foot below streambed elevations. You are also required to seed all disturbed areas with native grasses and to implement appropriate measures to insure that sediments are not introduced into waters of the United States during your project.

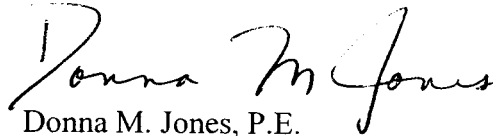
You are advised that this determination for your project is valid for five years from the date of this letter. If the project is not completed within this five-year period or your project plans change, you should contact our office for another determination.

You may accept or appeal the attached Approved Jurisdiction Determination or provide new information for our consideration. If you decide to appeal this decision, please carefully consider the information contained in the enclosed Notification of Administrative Appeal Options and Process and Request for Appeal. Please note that your appeal of this decision must be received within 60 days of the date of this letter. This documentation is to be signed and returned only if you wish to file an appeal. If you do not wish to appeal, this document should not be signed and returned.

Although an individual Department of the Army permit and individual IEPA 401 certification will not be required for the project, this does not eliminate the requirement that you must still acquire other applicable Federal, state, and local permits. If you have not already coordinated your project with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources – Office of Water Resources, please contact them at 217/782-3863 to determine if a floodplain development permit is required for your project.

Should you have any questions, please contact our Regulatory Branch by letter, or telephone Ms. Lynn Parker at 309/794-5446.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna M. Jones".

Donna M. Jones, P.E.
Chief, Enforcement Section
Regulatory Branch

Enclosures

Copies Furnished: (w/o enclosures)

Mr. Mike Diedrichsen, P.E.
Office of Water Resources
IL Department of Natural Resources
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, Illinois 62701-1271

Mr. Bruce Yurdin
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
Watershed Management Section, Permit Sec. 15
1021 North Grand Avenue East
Post Office Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276